

Abstract

**REDUCING OVERHEAD WHEN SETTING UP MULTIPLE
VIRTUAL CIRCUITS BETWEEN TWO NETWORK DEVICES**

Setting up a group of virtual circuits using a single set up message request. In an embodiment, fewer than all of the virtual circuits in the group are immediately provisioned, and the remaining virtual circuits are placed in an inactive status by appropriate configuration of all the devices in the path of the group of virtual circuits. Each of the inactive virtual circuits can be activated (complete provisioning) as and when required. The bandwidth overhead on the networks is reduced as fewer signaling messages would be used in provisioning several virtual circuits. The parsing overhead is reduced on the devices processing the signaling messages as the parsing overhead is reduced.

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